

Writer's Notebook

PERSONAL STUDIO

A Compilation of Your Creativity



You must have a working Personal Studio. This is your CREATIVE space where you can write whatever you want to write about. Your Personal Studio will be for a **major grade**.

You are to work on your Personal Studio consistently. There will not be assigned class time to work on your Personal Studio; however, you will work on it whenever you finish anything early or if you are waiting on me to get my act together. Most of your time to work on this will come when you finish drafting an assigned essay early.

Your Personal Studio may contain anything that develops you as a writer. Here are some of my suggestions (if you have any other ideas, please feel free to ask):

- A working list of your Commonly Misspelled Words
- Your (unassigned) Poetry
 - Free verse
 - Haiku (5-7-5)
 - Concrete
 - Imagist
 - Acrostic
- Your (unassigned) Lyrics
- Your (unassigned) Prose
- Write a creative dialogue
- Write a mini-play with stage directions
- Write flash fiction (100 words or less)
- Your Paint Splatters (Do you ever think of anything like a really cool simile or sound effect phrase you hope you can remember to use in your next piece of writing? That is a "Paint Splatter." They are just little one-liners you want to write down to remember for later.)
- Your Memoirs (Individualized memories, not your life story)
- An ABC Person's Name and Shared Memory Chart
- An ABC Household Objects and Descriptions Chart
- Illustrated Vivid Verbs and Synonyms
- An "In My Humble Opinion" Chart
- Snapshot Writings (Tape a non-drawn image and describe it)
- Practice various Cookie sentences
- Practice sentence expanding with phrases
- Do additional practice of whatever writing technique we learned that day

This is not a place to doodle, write a novel, or write your life story. Your Personal Studio should be a compilation of **several quick pieces** that you **keep going back to for revision and quality**.

Your Personal Studio may be several pieces of one type of writing **or** you may have several pieces of various types of writing; It's up to you.

Your major grade will be based on:

- **Time** (Are you truly using every second possible in class to work on this? Or, are you talking, getting out of your seat, or pretending you have nothing to do when you finish something else early? I will take into consideration any time you spend researching for a writing piece you are working on, but I expect to see the profit of your research in your writing.)
- **Full and Learned Effort** (Are you revising your pieces with new techniques that we learn in class? Or, are you pretending to push your pencil around?)
- **Quality** (Are your writing pieces good and rich with the techniques we learn? Or, did you just fill a bunch of pages with trivial and elementary leveled junk?)

*In summary, the most considerable part of this grade will be me looking to see if you are applying and revising with the writing techniques that you learn in class to your personal writing.

*This grade will NOT be based on quantity or completion. Quantity and completion grades actually annoy me, as they are a huge waste of my time! Nothing makes me more upset than grading junk that takes my personal time away from my own children. Be a WRITER, not a pencil-pusher.